

## Recovery of the lectotype of *Spirifer tornacensis* DE KONINCK, 1883 (Tournaisian Brachiopoda)

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GODEFROID, J., 2004. – Recovery of the lectotype of *Spirifer tornacensis* DE KONINCK, 1883 (Tournaisian Brachiopoda). *Bulletin de l'Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 74: 69-71, fig. 1, Bruxelles-Brussel, March 31, 2004. – ISSN 0374-6291.

### Abstract

The specimen designated by BUBLICHENKO (1976, p. 113) as lectotype of *Spirifer tornacensis* has been recovered. The designation of a neotype (in SARTENAER & PLODOWSKI, 1996, pp. 56-57) is no longer required. The lectotype is re-figured.

**Key-words:** Brachiopods. *Spirifer tornacensis*. Lectotype. Tournaisian

### Résumé

Le spécimen désigné par BUBLICHENKO (1976, p. 113) comme lectotype de *Spirifer tornacensis* a été retrouvé. La désignation d'un néotype (in SARTENAER & PLODOWSKI, 1996, pp. 56-57) n'est plus justifiée. Le lectotype est refiguré.

**Mots-clefs:** Brachiopodes. *Spirifer tornacensis*. Lectotype. Tournaisien

The spiriferid brachiopod *Spirifer tornacensis* was described and figured for the first time by DE KONINCK (1883, pp. 386-388, pl. 13, figs. 1-9) who illustrated five specimens (type series). DE KONINCK subsequently [(1887, pp. 110-111, pl. 25, figs. 1-10, 12, 13 (non fig. 11 = *Unispirifer* sp.))] re-described and re-illustrated the species. The author did not designate a holotype or a lectotype what is obviously quite normal in papers published at that time.

BUBLICHENKO (1976, p. 113) designated as lectotype a specimen (DE KONINCK, 1883, pl. 13, figs. 1, 2) of the type series. The selection of that specimen is somewhat surprising. As a matter of fact BUBLICHENKO did not take into consideration the paper of VANDERCAMMEN & VANDERCAMMEN-GOFFINET (1970, p. 81) pointing out that it was lost.

In a recent, very detailed publication, SARTENAER & PLODOWSKI (1996) re-described *Spirifer tornacensis* and assigned this species to the new genus *Atylephorus*. In the discussion concerning the type series of the species, these authors (*id.*, p. 56) indicate that the specimen chosen as

lectotype by BUBLICHENKO could not be found in the collections of the "Institut royal des Sciences naturelles" so corroborating the conclusion of VANDERCAMMEN & VANDERCAMMEN-GOFFINET (*id.*). Consequently they designated (*id.*, pp. 56-57) as neotype another specimen of the type series, illustrated by DE KONINCK (1883, pl. 13, figs. 6, 7).

During the preparatory works for the renovation of the exhibitions of invertebrate fossils, I was fortunate to find in an old show case three specimens labelled *Spirifer tornacensis* DE KONINCK. One (Fig. 1) of them corresponds, except in an explainable, slight difference between the specimen and its illustration in DE KONINCK, to the specimen chosen as lectotype by BUBLICHENKO. In order to display the ventral valve, the specimen was fixed on a plaster block with the top of the dorsal fold partially and artificially flattened (Fig. 1d).

The difference results from the idealized representation by DE KONINCK (1883, pl. 13, figs. 1, 2) of the partially deformed right (in ventral view) cardinal extremity. DE KONINCK often adjusted his drawings in this way as pointed out by SARTENAER & PLODOWSKI (*id.*, p. 55) who use among others, the term "embellished" for describing these drawings.

The concordance of the recovered specimen and the illustrations in DE KONINCK (1883, pl. 13, figs. 1, 2) is evident on the basis of:

- The general outline (except the right cardinal extremity as mentioned above).
- The size.
- The presence of a slightly more accentuated (darker in figure 2 by DE KONINCK) furrow on the right flank of the ventral valve, close to the sulcus.
- The arrangement of the growth lamellae on the ventral and dorsal valves.
- The number of costae (10-11) in the sulcus.
- The presence in the sulcus of a median costa of second order, starting at about the mid-length.

On that basis I consider that the recovered specimen is the one illustrated by DE KONINCK (*id.*).

According to Article 75.8 of the ICZN (1999), "the rediscovered material again becomes the name-bearing type and the neotype is set aside".

The recovered specimen IRScNB a4292 is the lecto-

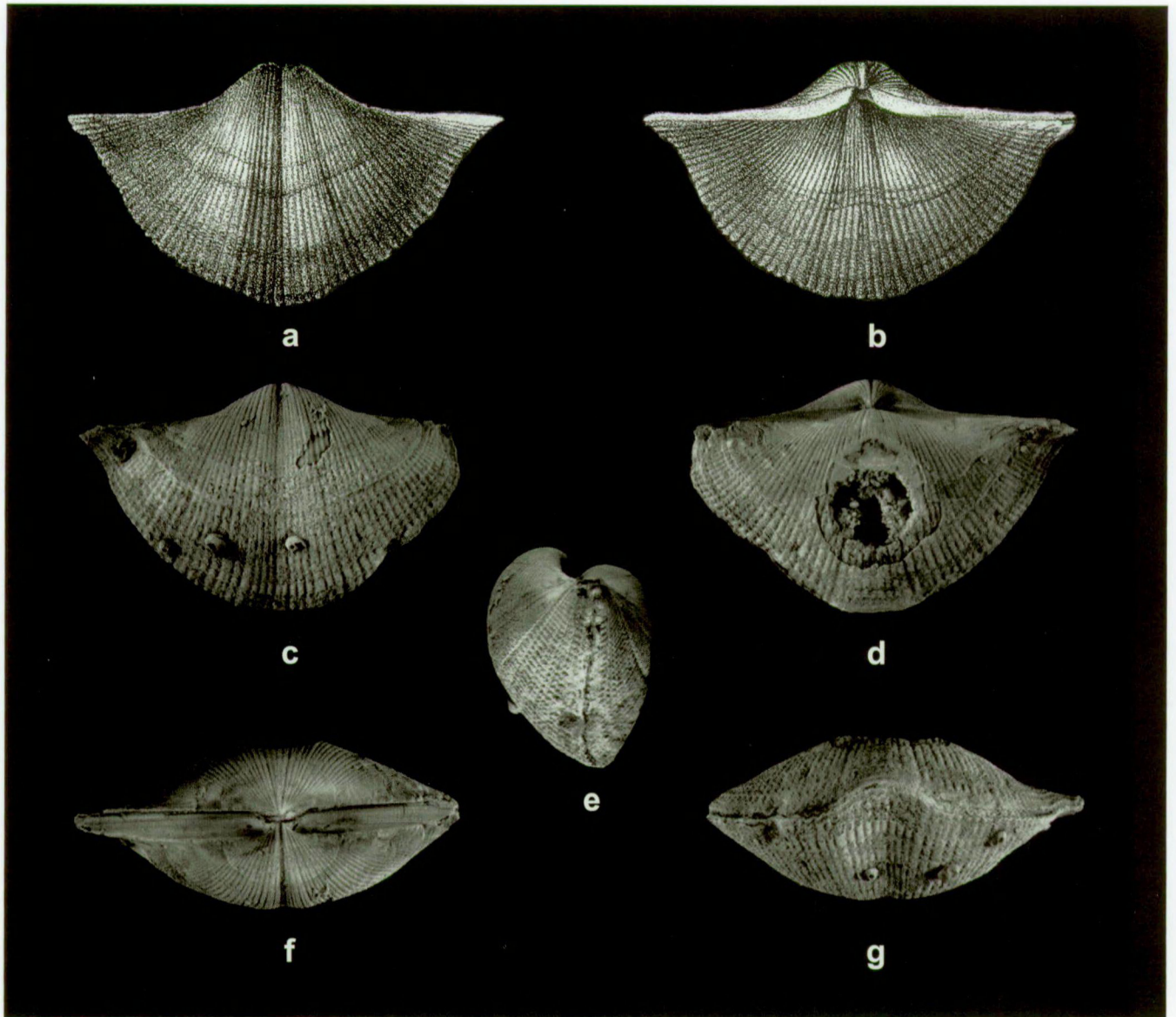


Fig. 1 — *Spirifer tornacensis* DE KONINCK, 1883 [= *Atylephorus tornacensis* (DE KONINCK, 1883)]. Lectotype. Specimen IRScNB a4292. a, b: copies of the original illustrations in DE KONINCK (1883, pl. 13, figs. 1, 2). c-g: ventral, dorsal, lateral, posterior and anterior views. Natural size.

type of *Spirifer tornacensis*, chosen by BUBLICHENKO and the neotype IRScNB a4294, designated by SARTENAER & PŁODOWSKI becomes a paralectotype.

The preservation of the lectotype and of the other specimens of the type series is the same.

The recovery of the lectotype does not modify by any means the outstanding re-description of *Spirifer tornacensis* by SARTENAER & PŁODOWSKI and the stratigraphical and geographical data as specified by these authors.



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